Trivia

Interesting Facts About the Human Body

A red blood cell can circumnavigate your body in under 20 seconds.

Our heart beats around 100,000 times every day.

The human lungs have a surface area large enough to cover one side of a tennis court.

When we touch something, we send a message to our brain at 124 mph.

A smile exercises 36 muscles.

The tiniest muscle, the stapedius of the middle ear, is just one-fifth of an inch long.

Humans breath in about 7 quarts of air every minute.

The human hand contains three main nerves, two major arteries and 27 different bones - more of the body is devoted to controlling the hands than any other part of the body.

When we go to sleep and enter the REM (Rapid Eye Movement) cycle, our bodies become completely paralyzed as areas of the brain that control movement are de-activated.

There are 137 million light sensitive cells in the eye's retina and the fluid that fills the eye is changed 15 times a day.

The femur/thigh bone is the longest bone in the human body, it is about a quarter of one's height.

The tooth is the only part of the human body that cannot heal and repair by its own.

Humans have the ability to distinguish 4,000 to 10,000 smells.

The only joint-less bone in the human body is the hyoid bone, which is present in the throat area.



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Dates in History

- 1715 On May 19th, the colony of New York passed a law making it illegal to "gather, rake, take up, or bring to the market, any oysters whatsoever" between the months of May and September. This regulation was only one of many that were passed in the early days of America to help preserve certain species. However, earlier versions of these laws were more concerned with insuring that hunters would have a steady supply of game.
- **1887** Buffalo Bill's Wild West show opened on May 9th in London, giving Queen Victoria and her subjects their first look at real cowboys and Indians. In 1883, Cody staged an outdoor extravaganza called the "Wild West, Rocky Mountain, and Prairie Exhibition". When the show was a success, Cody realized he could evoke the mythic West more effectively if he abandoned cramped theater stages for large outdoor exhibitions. The result was "Buffalo Bill's Wild West," a circus-like pageant celebrating life in the West.
- **1963** On May 1st, James Whittaker of Redmond, Washington, became the first American to reach the summit of Mt. Everest, the tallest mountain in the world. Located in the central Himalayas on the border of China and Nepal, Everest stands 29,028 feet above sea level.
- **1994** On May 6th, in a ceremony presided over by England's Queen Elizabeth II and French President Francois Mitterand, a rail tunnel under the English Channel was officially opened, connecting Britain and the European mainland for the first time since the Ice Age. As the world's longest undersea tunnel, the Chunnel runs under water for 23 miles, with an average depth of 150 feet below the seabed.

On the Lighter Side

A Risk For All Seasons

My mother was rushed to the hospital following a serious tumble. There the staff placed a band around her wrist with large letters warning: Fall Risk.

Unimpressed, Mom said to me, "I'll have them know I'm a winter, spring, and summer risk too."

My Daily Regimen

My doctor took one look at my gut and refused to believe that I work out. So I listed the exercises I do every day: jump to conclusions, climb the walls, drag my heels, push my luck, make mountains out of molehills, bend over backward, run around in circles, put my foot in my mouth, go over the edge, and beat around the bush.

A Second Opinion

Lenny tells the psychiatrist, "Every time I get into bed, I think there's somebody under it."

"Come to me three times a week for two years, and I'll cure your fears," says the shrink. "And I'll charge you only \$200 a visit."

Lenny says he'll think about it. Six months later, he runs into the doctor, who asks why he never came back. "For \$200 a visit?" says Lenny. "A bartender cured me for \$10."

"Is that so! How?"

"He told me to cut the legs off the bed."



(history.com)